

LAHIVE  
&  
COCKFIELD  
LLP

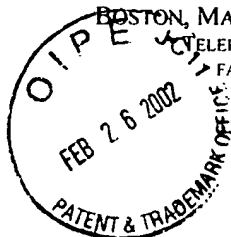
COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
28 STATE STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-1784

TELEPHONE (617) 227-7400

FAX (617) 742-4214

lc@lahive.com



Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

JOHN A. LAHIVE, JR. (1928-1997)  
THOMAS V. SMURZYNSKI  
RALPH A. LOREN  
GIULIO A. DeCONTI, JR.  
ANN LAMPORT HAMMITTE  
ELIZABETH A. HANLEY  
AMY BAKER MANDRAGOURAS  
ANTHONY A. LAURENTANO  
KEVIN J. CANNING  
JANE E. REMILLARD  
DeANN FORAN SMITH  
PETER C. LAURO  
JEANNE M. DIGIORGIO  
DEBRA J. MILASINCIC, Ph.D.  
DAVID J. RIKKERS  
DAVID R. BURNS  
JOHN S. CURRAN  
SEAN D. DETWILER

CYNTHIA L. KANIK, Ph.D.  
MEGAN E. WILLIAMS, Ph.D.  
RICHANAND  
MICHAEL PHILLIPPS \*  
LISA M. DIROCCO  
HATHAWAY P. RUSSELL \*\*  
MARIA LACCOTRIPE ZACHARAKIS, Ph.D.  
PETER A. DiMATTEA  
VINCENT P. LOCCISANO  
MERIDETH C. ARNOLD

SENIOR COUNSEL  
JAMES E. COCKFIELD

OF COUNSEL  
JEREMIAH LYNCH  
WILLIAM A. SCOFIELD, JR.  
SIBLEY P. REPERT

PATENT AGENTS  
THEODORE R. WEST  
SHAYNE Y. HUFF, Ph.D.  
DANIEL B. KO

TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS  
CYNTHIA M. SOROOS  
PETER W. DINI, Ph.D.  
EUIHOON LEE  
JENNIFER K. ROSENFELD  
ALLAN TAMESHTIT, Ph.D.  
CATHERINE E. McPHERSON  
ERIC F. WAGNER, Ph.D.  
SHAHID HASAN, Ph.D.  
JACOB G. WEINTRAUB  
JONATHAN M. SPARKS, Ph.D.  
CRISTIN E. HOWLEY, Ph.D.

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COPY OF PAPERS  
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February 13, 2002

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Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/854,197  
*A System and Method For The Configuration, Repair And Protection  
of Virtual Ring Networks*  
Inventors: Richard A. Thompson et al.  
Filed: May 11, 2001  
Our Ref. No.: SYCS-005

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Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449;
3. Copies of references cited in PTO Form 1449; and
4. A Return Postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

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Date

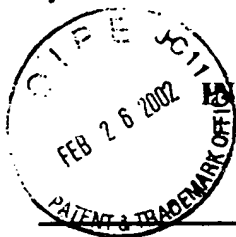
John S. Curran

John S. Curran, Reg. No. P50,445

Respectfully submitted,  
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

John S. Curran

John S. Curran  
Registration No. P50,445  
Attorney for Applicants



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Richard A. Thompson et al.

Serial No.: 09/854,197

Filed: May 11, 2001

For: *A System and Method For The Configuration,  
Repair And Protection of Virtual Ring Networks*

Attorney Docket No.: SYCS-005

Group Art Unit: 2661

Examiner:

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By:

John S. Curran  
John S. Curran  
Registration No. P50,445  
Attorney for Applicants

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

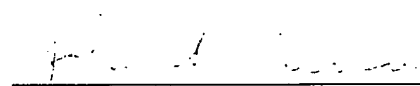
Dear Sir:

Applicants and their Attorney are aware of the following publications and information, listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration. A copy of each cited publication is enclosed.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this disclosure. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits issues in this application bearing a mailing date prior to the date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the appropriate fee as required under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

Respectfully submitted,  
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John S. Curran  
Registration No. P50,445  
Attorney for Applicants

28 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 227-7400

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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